

Claims

I claim:

- 1 1. An identification tag in a form of a single microcircuit, comprising:
 - 2 an optical transceiver;
 - 3 a radio transceiver;
 - 4 a memory storing an identification code connected to the optical
 - 5 transceiver and the radio transceiver;
 - 6 means for operating at least one of the transceivers in receive mode
 - 7 while operating at least one of the transceivers in transmit mode; and
 - 8 means for transmitting the identification code by the transceiver
 - 9 operating in the transmit mode in response to receiving a predetermined
 - 10 signal by the transceiver operating in the receive mode.
- 1 2. The identification tag of claim 1, in which the optical transceiver includes
 - 2 a single photodiode configured to transmit and receive light signals.
- 1 3. The identification tag of claim 1, in which the radio transceiver includes
 - 2 an antenna formed as an induction coil.
- 1 4. The identification tag of claim 3, in which the induction coil acquires
 - 2 power for the optical transceiver.
- 1 5. The identification tag of claim 4, further comprising:
 - 2 means for storing the power.

1 6. The identification tag of claim 1, in which the identification code includes
2 one or more dates.

1 7. The identification tag of claim 1, in which the received signal is a light
2 signal, and the transmitted signal is a radio signal.

1 8. The identification tag of claim 1, in which the received signal is a radio
2 signal.

1 9. The identification tag of claim 1, further comprising:
2 means for operating at least one of the transceivers in receive mode
3 and transmit mode while operating the other transceivers in transmit mode.

1 10. The identification tag of claim 1, further comprising:
2 means for operating at least one of the transceivers in receive mode
3 and transmit mode while operating the other transceivers in receive mode.

1 11. The identification tag of claim 1, further comprising:
2 means for operating at least one of the transceivers in receive mode
3 and transmit mode while operating the other transceivers in receive mode
4 and transmit mode.

1 12. The identification tag of claim 1, further comprising:
2 means for synchronizing the transmitting and receiving according to
3 receiving light.

1 13. The identification tag of claim 1, in which the OF transceiver is omni-
2 directional.

1 14. The identification tag of claim 1, in which the OF transceiver is narrow
2 beam.

1 15. An identification method, comprising:
2 storing an identification code in a memory connected to an optical
3 transceiver and an radio transceiver;
4 operating at least one of the transceivers in receive mode while
5 operating at least one of the transceivers in transmit mode; and
6 transmitting the identification code by the transceiver operating in the
7 transmit mode in response to receiving a predetermined signal by the
8 transceiver operating in the receive mode.